

## DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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## (54) PAPER NAPKINS

(71) I, NIELS GEORGE BARFRED, a Danish citizen of Højbjerg, Holte, Denmark, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to coloured multiply paper napkins, and to a method of producing such paper napkins.

In laying a table, it is usual to aim at an attractive look by harmonizing the colours of the table cloth, of cups and plates, of candles, and of napkins, and, in fact, candles and matching paper napkins are often sold together with that object in view.

The paper napkins are generally manufactured from several thin plies of soft paper, generally creped paper, in order to make them soft and attractive in use, the individual plies being coloured in pure, strong colours.

However, the colouring increases substantially the cost of the paper, and the cost of coloured multi-ply paper napkins will generally be more than twice the cost of white paper napkins.

Therefore, an object of mine has been to provide coloured paper napkins of the said kind at a reduced cost.

With this and other objects in view, coloured paper napkins according to the present invention consist of at least three plies of soft paper, which are held together by an embossing along the borders, and are characterized in that only the outer plies are coloured, whereas the middle ply or plies are white.

Thus in a 3-ply paper napkin of the invention, the cost of the paper will generally be reduced by at least one sixth as compared with a similar napkin, where all three plies are coloured.

A further reduction in costs is obtainable according to a preferred embodiment of the

[Price 25p]

present invention, in which the coloured outer plies are in different colours. This has the advantage of allowing for a reduction of manufacturer's stock of napkins, since the napkins are always sold in a folded state, and a two-coloured napkin can be folded either way, depending on which colour the buyer wants.

Thus, the quantity to be stocked can be reduced to about half that necessary if the napkins were of the same colour on both sides.

In order to get a more decorative effect, in a further embodiment of the invention, the napkins are rectangular and are folded in a rectangular shape by a first fold not along a line bisecting the napkin and by a second fold perpendicular to the first and not along a line bisecting the once-folded napkin. By this means a small corner of the inside of the folded napkin is visible after the two foldings. The term 'rectangular' as used in this specification includes square.

If one side is, for example, light blue and the other deep blue, a very pleasing effect can be obtained. Moreover, the folded napkin will look bigger than it really is, which is attractive not only from a sales point of view, but also from an aesthetical point of view.

In producing the present napkins, the plies from at least three rolls of single-ply soft paper are carried in superimposed state over embossing rollers, making longitudinal and transverse embossing, which are spaced according to the desired dimensions of the napkins, the outer plies being coloured, and the other ply or plies being white, and the multi-ply sheet being cut along the centre lines of the embossings to separate the napkins. Finally, the napkins may be subjected to a double folding as described above.

An embodiment of the napkins of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying

drawings, where:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective plan view of a three-ply napkin with the plies separated at one corner,

5 Fig. 2 shows the first folding, and

Fig. 3 shows the final folding of the napkin.

The napkin of Fig. 1 consists of three plies 5, 6 and 7, of soft, creped paper, the plies 5 and 7 being coloured in different, harmonized colours, and the ply 6 being white. An embossing 8 along the borders keeps the three plies united as a single sheet.

15 Fig. 2 and 3 show how the napkin is twice folded with the ply 5 visible on the outside except at one corner (as shown in Figure 3) where a small part of the ply 7 is visible.

20 The above-described form of folding has the further advantage that the napkin is easily unfolded, which may sometimes be difficult, when paper napkins are folded in the usual manner.

25 WHAT I CLAIM IS:—

1. A coloured paper napkin consisting of at least three plies of soft paper held together by an embossing along the borders, only the outer plies being coloured, the remainder being white.

30 2. A coloured paper napkin according to claim 1, in which the outer plies are of

different colouring.

3. A coloured paper napkin according to claim 1 or 2 which is rectangular and is 35 folded into a rectangular shape by a first fold not along a line bisecting the napkin and by a second fold, perpendicular to the first and not along a line bisecting the once-folded napkin.

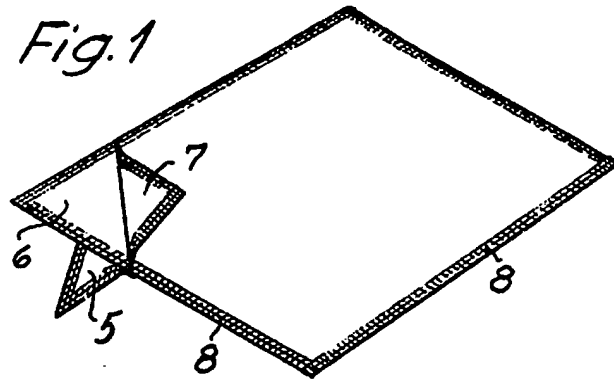
40 4. Method of producing coloured paper napkins according to claim 1, in which at least three webs of soft paper in superimposed state, the outer plies being coloured and the inner ply or plies being white, are 45 carried over embossing rollers to provide longitudinal and transverse embossings spaced according to the desired dimensions of the napkins, the resulting multi-ply sheet being cut into individual napkins by 50 cuts along the centre lines of the embossings.

5. The method of claim 4, in which the individual napkins are subsequently folded to give napkins as claimed in claim 3. 55

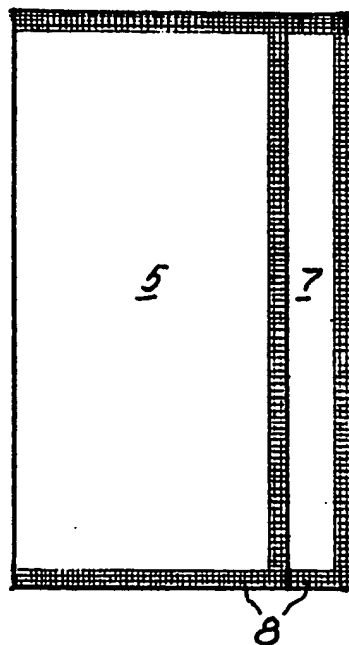
6. A napkin according to claim 1 substantially as herein described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

For the Applicant,  
GILL, JENNINGS & EVERY  
Chartered Patent Agents,  
51/52 Chancery Lane,  
London, W.C.2.

*Fig. 1*



*Fig. 2*



*Fig. 3*

